

Rs. 11410 crores (\$4.4 billion) in the third week of February 1992. The rate of inflation has also declined from the peak level of 16.7 per cent reached in August 1991 to about 12 per cent in February 1992.

[English]

Licenses to Private Parties to operate Container Freight Stations

1814. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for granting licences to private parties to operate Container Freight Stations (CFS) as competitors to a public sector undertaking;

(b) whether the Government propose to reconsider its decision of allowing private parties to operate CFS; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). Private sector participation in Container Freight Stations (CFSs) is being allowed, on selective basis, to generate competition; provide efficient service to the users and to get over the problem of resources needed for development of the transport sector including CFSs. This is also in line with the Government's policy of liberalisation.

Government does not propose to change this policy.

Funds to D.T.C.

1815. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allocate more funds to Delhi Transport

Corporation during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Government have proposed an amount of Rs. 15 crores as Non-Plan assistance and Rs. 20 crores as Plan assistance to Delhi Transport Corporation during 1992-93.

[Translation]

Income Tax Collections from Interest of Bank Deposits

1816. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders to deduct income tax at source on interest on bank deposits were issued last year; and

(b) if so, the total amount of income tax recovered as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Finance (No.2) Act, 1991 contained a provision in this regard.

(b) The estimated amount of collection, likely to be received as a result of the changes in tax deduction provisions made by Finance (No.2) Act, 1991, is Rs. 125 crores.

[English]

Collection of Rubber

1817. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL
SURESH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rubber collected by STC during the last six months;

(b) the price per kilogram paid to rubber growers;

(c) whether the Government has given directions to STC to procure more rubber from the open market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) STC has collected from the domestic market a quantity of 14969 MT of natural rubber during the last six months, as on 26.2.92, as under:-

RMA - 5 :	6703 MT
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RMA - 4 :	8266 MT
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14969 MT

(b) STC is procuring natural rubber from the domestic market through its four Procurement agencies and it pays to the procurement agencies as under:-

-for RMA - 4 : Rs. 20.95 per kg.

-for RMA - 5 : Rs. 20.45 per kg.

(c) and (d). The Government has directed STC to procure whatever quantities of the specified grades of natural rubber that are offered to it subject to observance of quality specifications.

Cantonment Boards

1818. SHRI SHANKARRAO KALE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to demarcate the Cantonment Boards

and to replace these with elected bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be effective?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). Cantonment Boards are local bodies comprising elected as well as nominated members. There is no proposal to replace these with wholly elected bodies.

Exports to Germany

1819. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:
SHRI V. KRISHNAN RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main items being exported to Germany;

(b) whether there has been an increase in exports to Germany during the last year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to further increase the exports during 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The main items of exports from India to Federal Republic of Germany comprise of textiles (including garments), leather and leather products, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, agriculture and food products, gems and jewellery,

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Exports to Germany during the financial year 1990-91 stood at Rs. 2548.82 crores as against Rs. 1994.20 crores in the preceding year (1989-90).